



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE



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Agriculture

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: July 6, 2014

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR JULY 6, 2014

Dry weather prevailed for most of the Commonwealth this week. Rain and wind did not materialize from Hurricane Arthur as expected; rainfall from the hurricane was spotty, with heavier rains accumulating in the southeastern part of the State. A cold front brought some rain showers on Thursday, but overall the showers were light and did little to offset the day time highs of 90 degrees and above. Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.2. Growers continued to plant soybeans during the dry week; however, low emergence was a concern as the subsoil moisture may not be sufficient to germinate the seeds. Growers continued to harvest small grains this week, with some counties wrapping up for the year. Other farming activities included harvesting sweet corn and cantaloupes, cutting hay, and celebrating Independence Day.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 6, 2014	13	31	53	3
June 29, 2014	8	28	59	5
June 22, 2014	4	25	61	10
June 15, 2014	4	22	64	10
SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 6, 2014	11	25	60	4
June 29, 2014	3	24	68	5
June 22, 2014	3	23	69	5
June 15, 2014	2	19	70	9

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**Virginia Cooperative Extension
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Virginia Tech

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VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	0	3	16	74	7
Corn	1	4	24	58	13
Soybeans	0	3	22	68	7
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	1	5	33	35	26
Tobacco, Fire-Cured	1	4	39	48	8
Tobacco, Burley	1	1	34	57	7
Cotton	0	0	2	95	3
Peanuts	0	0	1	91	8
Livestock	1	4	17	60	18
Pasture and Range	5	11	32	44	8
Hay, Alfalfa	0	6	32	52	10
Hay, Other	2	15	34	43	6
Potatoes, Summer	0	0	0	99	1
Apples, All	1	1	40	58	0
Grapes, All	0	8	35	50	7

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Cotton Squaring	43	34	59	56
Cotton Setting Bolls	0	0	0	7
Peanuts Pegging	25	21	19	29
Corn Silking	34	23	47	49
Corn Dough	5	n/a	3	4
Soybeans Planted	88	76	82	91
Soybeans Emerged	75	63	76	81
Soybeans Blooming	7	n/a	3	3
Winter Wheat Harvested	73	60	78	90
Barley Harvested	95	90	n/a	n/a
Oats Harvested	81	69	69	n/a
Potatoes Summer Harvested	20	8	57	42

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING July 6, 2014

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar 1. To July 5	Mar. 1 to July 5 Norm	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	86	63	94	55	75	1	1808	1624	0.65	3.05	-1.43	24.07	1.58
Norfolk	89	71	97	65	80	2	1959	1777	1.46	3.39	-1.07	23.02	0.00
Richmond	91	69	99	61	80	3	2009	1785	0.04	3.44	-0.75	19.48	-2.40
Roanoke	85	64	96	53	75	0	1821	n/a	0.75	3.73	-0.55	19.31	-2.88
Wash/Dulles	86	65	95	54	75	1	1567	n/a	0.58	5.20	0.52	29.54	7.98

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

FAUQUIER (Timothy Mize)

Still getting timely rainfall. Pasture are holding, second cuttings of grass hay are beginning to come off. After cold conditions this spring corn crop has rebounded and looks good to excellent.

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Showers here and there this week. Temperatures in the 90's - 105's. Some corn replanting reported.

ROCKINGHAM (Jeremy Daubert)

Spotty rains countywide, from lots of rain to no rain this week

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)

Seasonally hot and humid conditions through mid week allowed hay making to progress. Most of the Rockbridge area received between 0.5 and 1 inch of rain Thursday when a low pressure front brought thunderstorms followed by cooler temperatures. Crop condition and available pasture forage are both good for this point in the summer.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan Poore)

The hopes of getting some rain from hurricane Austin or the front moving from the west didn't happen. The south side of the county is very dry, the corn is at a critical stage of much needed moisture. The north side of the county had spotty showers from the front. Friday, Sat. and Sunday temperatures and humidity however was welcome. Soybeans are somewhat stressed, but not as much as the corn.

CENTRAL continues

CHESTERFIELD (Joan Poore)

Some spotty showers from the front Thursday pm, and a cooler weekend which helped with the stress of the heat. More rain is needed with the predicted high temperatures for the upcoming week. Corn is silking and soybeans need water.

GOOCHLAND (Rachel Goose)

Very dry for about a month.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

The first week in July was moderate for July; the weekend just past was absolutely spectacular. In terms of weather, not too hot, not too cool, just right for outdoor living. There was the storm Arthur, but it had little impact for Hanover. A cold front from the west did trigger some scattered storms with widely varying rainfall amounts on Thursday. I had 2/10 on an inch and a neighbor three miles west of me had significantly more. He did not have a gauge, but had washing and soil movement in his horse pasture. Corn looks good after the moderate weekend, but county wide we could use some rain. The predicted heat of the next three days may take a toll if some rain is not forthcoming. Small grain harvest is pretty much done and producers are finishing up double crop bean planting with most of them up already. Producers smile when asked about small grain yields.

SPOTSYLVANIA (John Howe)

Hot, dry week. Little rain although much was forecast.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Hot and dry conditions during the week continued to deplete soil moisture and started taking a toll on crops, especially corn, hay, and pastures. Wheat harvest is complete. Some double-crop soybeans have been planted into soils with marginal soil moisture so there might be some emergence issues, especially if weather conditions remain dry.

GLOUCESTER (David Moore)

Conditions are getting dryer and hot conditions are taking toll on crops. Hopefully rains will come from this weekend's hurricane event and will get corn over a major hurdle. Soybeans are fine for the most part, but will need moisture to get a lot of soybeans to emerge. Wheat harvest is winding down and the crop has been a good one. Quality has held up for most of the harvest season. Cantaloupes and sweet corn are ready. All need some rain.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Lack of rainfall in the county continues to be a concern.

WASHINGTON (Phil Blevins)

Pasture conditions are approaching a critical situation in parts of the county.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Hot week in Franklin County - dry conditions with hot humid weather. Wheat being harvested.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Hurricane Arthur did not bring the rain or wind that was anticipated. Crops overall are looking pretty good. Some ponds have weed problems. Producers are finishing up small grains and planting double crop soybeans quickly behind the combine. Some late cut [small grain] is weedy and will likely have little nutrition.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Hurricane Arthur came through July 4th and brought some parts of the county one inch of rain others didn't get any.